

Critical Concepts 6.2A Non Fiction Lesson Plans

Skill Focus: CC.6.2 – Determine a central idea and how it is conveyed through supporting details; provide a summary distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

Vocabulary: central idea, convey, distinct, summary, opinion, judgment, topic

October Lesson Objectives

- Students will be able to determine the central idea of a nonfiction text.
- Students will be able to identify key details that support the central idea.
- Students will be able to summarize the text objectively, without personal opinion or judgment.
- Students will use academic vocabulary in discussion and short written responses.

Non-Fiction Texts Suggestions for October (text selections are suggestion only, teachers can change the text to fit their classroom needs, if choosing another text it should come from the Educational Epiphany Curriculum)

- *"Diabetes on the Rise Among Teenagers"*
- *"No More Chocolate Milk at School"*
- *"How Pinterest is Becoming the Next Big Thing in Social Media for Business"*
- *"An Unconventional Approach to Learning with the iPad, Mac, and iPod Touch"*

Graphic Organizer: Citing Evidence Refer to your Educational Epiphany Critical Concepts Binder: Graphic Organizers Tab: CC 6.2A (pages 17-20 in the Graphic Organizers Tab)

I Do (Teacher Model – 15 mins)

Text: *"Diabetes on the Rise Among Teenagers"* by Roni Caryn Rabin

Steps:

- Distribute Graphic Organizer CC 6.2.
- Review vocabulary words: *central idea, convey, distinct, summary, opinion, judgment, topic.*
- Read the first two paragraphs aloud to students.
- Think aloud as you model:
 - Topic: Diabetes in teens
 - Central Idea: Type 2 diabetes is increasing among teens due to lifestyle and dietary changes.
 - Supporting Details:
 - Obesity rates in teens are rising.
 - Many teens are less active than in previous generations.
 - Fast food consumption has increased.

- Type 2 diabetes was once rare in teens, now more common.
- Summary (distinct from opinion):
 - The article discusses how lifestyle and diet have contributed to the rising number of teens being diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, a condition previously uncommon in youth.

We Do (Guided Practice – 20 mins)

Text: “No More Chocolate Milk at School” by www.journalnow.com

Steps:

- Read the article aloud together.
- Ask students:
 - What is the topic of the article?
 - What is the central idea the author is trying to convey?
 - What are 4 supporting details?
 - How can we write a summary without adding opinions?
- Complete the graphic organizer as a class.

Sample Class Response:

- Topic: Chocolate milk ban in schools
- Central Idea: Schools are removing chocolate milk due to health concerns and efforts to reduce sugar intake.
- Supporting Details:
 - Chocolate milk has more sugar than white milk.
 - Childhood obesity rates are high.
 - Some parents support the ban.
 - Others worry kids will drink less milk.
- Summary:

The article explains why some schools are banning chocolate milk in an effort to promote healthier choices for students by reducing their sugar intake.

You Do with Partner (Collaborative Practice – 30 mins)

Text: “How Pinterest is Becoming the Next Big Thing in Social Media for Business” by Jason Falls

Steps:

- Pairs read the article together.
- Each pair completes the CC 6.2 graphic organizer.
- Remind them to focus on a summary free of personal opinions.

Possible Partner Response:

- Topic: Pinterest as a business tool

- Central Idea: Pinterest is becoming a major platform for businesses to market and drive traffic.
- Supporting Details:
 - Businesses use it to showcase products.
 - It's highly visual, appealing to consumers.
 - Pinterest drives more referral traffic than Twitter.
 - Small businesses benefit from its targeted audiences.
- Summary:

The article describes how businesses are increasingly using Pinterest to promote their products and generate web traffic, making it a valuable tool in digital marketing.

You Do Independently (Homework)

Text: *"An Unconventional Approach to Learning with the iPad, Mac, and iPod Touch"* (Author Unknown)

Task:

- Students read the article independently.
- Complete the CC 6.2 graphic organizer.
- Summary should be objective and based only on the text.

Sample Expected Response:

- Topic: Technology in education
- Central Idea: Apple devices are being used in schools to enhance learning in new and effective ways.
- Supporting Details:
 - Students can access digital textbooks.
 - Teachers use apps for interactive lessons.
 - Devices help students learn at their own pace.
 - Some schools report increased engagement.
- Summary:

The article explores how schools are using Apple products like iPads and Macs to improve classroom instruction and student engagement through technology.

Writing Prompt for Connection (Optional Extension or Assessment)

Prompt:

Using your organizer from *"An Unconventional Approach to Learning"*, write a short response explaining how technology can change the way students learn and engage in the classroom.

Use:

- One supporting detail from the article.
- One personal example or observation from your own school experience.

- 2-3 sentences explaining how both show the impact of learning tools on student success.